



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Cris Blackburn
Pat Shelbourne
Lovie Downey
Andrew Neal
Malissa Minucci
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem Place 2
Council Member Place 1 (Absent W/Notice)
Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Timothy Hamilton
Jennifer Calvert
Randy Barkley
Kevin Mead
Julie Rodriguez
Paul Hackleman
Lana Ewell

City Manager
City Secretary
City Attorney
Director of Parks and Community Services
Finance Director
Fire Chief
Assistant Police Chief
Director of Human Resources
Director of Public Work
Library Director

INVOCATION

Associate Pastor and Police Chaplin Mathew Hurst of the First Baptist Church of Watauga gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Miner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Blackburn asked for help fostering animals from the animal shelter. There are currently 22 kittens that have been dropped off, as they do not do well in a shelter environment.

Councilmember Neal also spoke about adopting animals. In addition, he mentioned that the Summer Reading program and Family Book Night are currently taking place at the library, along with many other ongoing programs.

Councilmember Hill announced that the library has a space in the back where you can make a donation for a book or DVD, with donations ranging from \$0.25 to \$1.00.

Mayor Miner mentioned that former Commissioner Gary Fickes passed away. A memorial service will be held on July 21 at 2:00 p.m. at the Hurst Conference Center. He stated that Commissioner Fickes did so much for Watauga, as well as for Tarrant County and North Texas, and described him as an amazing man.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Presentation of Service Awards for the City of Watauga Employees celebrating a Milestone Anniversary during the month of May.**

Sandra Gibson, City Manager, presented milestone awards to James Vieau and Paul Hackleman for 10 years of service, and to Neal DeSpain for 15 years of service.

2. **Presentation of Employee of the Month Award for the month of May**

Sandra Gibson, the City Manager, presented the Employee of the Month award to Adrian Franco.

3. **Proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month**

Mayor Miner presented a proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month to Timothy Hamilton and his staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no request for public comment

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

There was no request for public testimony

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Consider action on approval of the June 9, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.**
- 2. Consider action on approval of the June 23, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting minutes.**
- 3. Consider action on the approval of a resolution of the City of Watauga suspending the July 31, 2025, effective date of Oncor Delivery Company's requested rate change.**
- 4. Consider action on approval of the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2025.**
- 5. Consider action to approve the construction of the Parks Pole Barn Facility with Zenith Roofing and Waterproofing, LLC, through the TIPS USA #210205 cooperative purchasing program and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to the contract.**

Mayor Miner asked the council if they wish to pull any of the items, hearing none he asked for a Motion. Mayor Pro Tem Blackburn made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Downey seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion passed 6-0-0-0.

Ayes, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Shelbourne

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Discussion and action on approval to authorize the City of Watauga to enter into a Construction Contract with DDM Construction Corporation for the construction of Whitley Road 5, Paving Drainage and Water Improvements pursuant to Bid #25-004 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to the contract.**

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, presented the item. He announced that this is the final phase—Phase 5—of the Whitley Road project. The agenda item was to award the construction contract to DDM Construction, a contractor based in Lake Dallas, Texas. The total project cost is approximately \$7.9 million. The City received \$3.2 million grant through the 2021 Tarrant County Bond Program. This marks the second grant awarded by Tarrant County for a Whitley Road project; the first was \$800,000 in discretionary funds. Whitley Phase 5 will span from Starnes Road to Bursey Road and includes a complete reconstruction of the roadway. It was recommended that the project includes alternative B, a shared-use path for bicycles and pedestrians. The path will be constructed of

concrete with a 3-inch asphalt overlay, which is expected to last longer than concrete alone. Additionally, asphalt provides a more forgiving surface for runners and joggers, reducing impact on joints.

Councilmember Neal asked about the width of the shared-use path. Public Works Director Paul Hackleman stated it would be 10 feet wide and separated from the roadway, made possible by additional right-of-way in this section of Whitley Road. Though not consistent with previous phases, it improves safety.

Neal also asked about coordination with the nearby school. Hackleman confirmed the city has long been in contact with Keller ISD, recently emailed the CIP coordinator, and will invite school staff to the pre-construction meeting. He noted that the district is typically responsive and that all affected school principals have been notified.

1.

Councilmember Blackburn asked about the bid tabulation. Mr. Hackleman summarized the bid results, stating that bids ranged from \$7.69 million to \$10 million, with clusters in the \$8 million and \$9 million ranges. The lowest bid was selected, while one bid was rejected due to the absence of a bid bond.

Councilmember Neal made a motion to authorize the City of Watauga to enter into a construction contract with DDM Construction Corporation for the construction of Whitley Road 5 for the base bid plus alternative B in the amount of 7,697,558.20.

Councilmember Downey seconded the motion.

With no further discussion Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion passed 6-0-0-0.

Ayes, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Shelbourne

2. Discuss and consider action to approve the Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) 50th Year Project (Bunker Blvd Water Improvements) - Construction Bid Recommend Tarrant County Acceptance.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, presented the Bunker Boulevard water line project, funded through Tarrant County's 50th Year CDBG program. The project continues water improvements in the area, installing an 8-inch line from near U.S. 377 to Constitution Drive. The city received a \$170,000 grant toward the total cost of \$418,848, with Watauga covering the remainder and any overruns. Tarrant County oversees bidding and construction; the City's role is to accept the bid and recommend the award.

Councilmember Taylor stated the following motion: I move to accept the bid from Gomez Brothers Construction, Inc. and recommend Tarrant County enter the construction contract for construction of the Bunker Boulevard Water Main project in the amount of Four Hundred and Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and No Cents. Watauga's pledge above and beyond Tarrant County's grant is Two Hundred Forty-Eight

Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and No Cents. Councilmember Downey seconded the motion.

Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion passed 6-0-0-0.

Ayes, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Shelbourne

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code (Real Property), to discuss the purchase, sale, exchange or value of real property.

Mayor Miner recessed into executive session at 7:07 pm.

RECONVENE

Mayor Miner reconvened the open meeting at 7:33 pm.

ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATION

1. Consider action on the purchase, sale, exchange or value of real property.

No action was taken.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Mayor Miner asked for a discussion on fencing for the police parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Approved: this 28th day of July, 2025

Signed: this 29th day of July, 2025

ATTEST:

/s/ Linda Proskey

Linda Proskey, City Secretary



APPROVED:

/s/ Arthur L. Miner

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor